

In the claims:

- 1 1. (Currently Amended) A data processing apparatus, comprising:
2 a subject;
3 an observer associated with the subject and adapted to generate configuration
4 information, the configuration information comprising an attribute of the observer; and
5 a transmission manager associated with the subject, the transmission manager adapted to
6 receive the configuration information from the observer and to selectively communicate
7 update information to the observer based on the configuration information.
- 1 2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the configuration information includes a desired
2 type indication.
- 1 3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the transmission manager selectively discards
2 the update information in response to the desired type indication.
- 1 4. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein ~~configuration information~~ the
2 attribute of the observer includes a communication speed indication.
- 1 5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 4, wherein the transmission manager accumulates the
2 update information in response to the communication speed indication.
- 1 6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the transmission manager is an aspect associated
2 with the subject.
- 1 7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the subject generates the state change indication
2 and communicates the state change incitation to the transmission manager.

1 8. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the transmission manager selectively
2 modifies the update information in response to the ~~on the~~ configuration information.

1 9. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:

2 a first processor;

3 a first memory coupled to the first processor, wherein the subject and the transmission
4 manager reside within the first memory;

5 a second processor; and

6 a second memory coupled to the second processor, wherein the observer resides within
7 the second memory.

1 10. (Currently Amended) A distributed computer system, comprising:

2 a) a subject code segment resident on a first computer node, the subject code segment
3 adapted to produce an update message;

4 b) an observer resident on a second computer node, the first computer node being in
5 operable communication with the second computer node; and

6 c) an aspect coupled between the subject code segment and the observer, the aspect
7 configured to detect information associated with the update message and to selectively
8 communicate an update from the subject to the observer based at least in part upon an
9 attribute of the observer and the detected information.

1 11. (Original) The distributed computer system of claim 10, wherein the subject comprises a
2 network management software program, and wherein the observer code segment comprises a
3 graphical user interface.

1 12. (Original) The distributed computer system of claim 10, wherein the subject, the observer,
2 and the aspect comprise objects.

1 13. (Currently Amended) A method of communicating updates from a subject to an observer,
2 comprising:

3 communicating configuration information from the observer to an aspect, the
4 configuration information comprising an attribute of the observer;

5 notifying the aspect of an update;

6 interrogating the update to generate to generate update information; and

7 selectively communicating the update to the observer based on a comparison between the
8 update information and the configuration information.

1 14. (Original) The method of claim 13, further comprising selectively modifying the update
2 based on a comparison between the update information and the configuration information.

1 15. (Original) The method of claim 13, further comprising accumulating the update information
2 based on a comparison between the update information and the configuration information.

1 16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13, further comprising sending updated
2 configuration information from the observer to the aspect, wherein the updated configuration
3 information comprises an updated attribute of the observer.

1 17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16, wherein the updated ~~configuration~~
2 ~~information~~ attribute of the observer includes a system load indication.

1 18. (Original) The method of claim 13, further comprising associating the aspect with the
2 subject.

1 19. (Currently Amended) A computer program product, comprising:

2 (a) a program configured to perform a method of controlling updates between a subject
3 and an observer, the method comprising:

4 1) communicating configuration information from the observer to an aspect, the
5 configuration information comprising an attribute of the observer;

6 2) notifying the aspect of an update;

7 3) interrogating the update to generate to generate update information; and

8 4) selectively communicating the update to the observer based on a comparison
9 between the update information and the configuration information.

10 (b) a signal bearing media bearing the program.

1 20. (Original) The computer program product of claim 19, wherein the method further comprises
2 selectively modifying the update based on a comparison between the update information and the
3 configuration information.

1 21. (Original) The computer program product of claim 19, wherein the method further comprises
2 accumulating the update information based on a comparison between the update information and
3 the configuration information.

1 22. (Original) The computer program product of claim 19, wherein the method further comprises
2 sending updated configuration information from the observer to the aspect.

1 23. (Currently Amended) A method of maintaining data consistency between a subject object on
2 a first computer system and an observer object on a second computer system, comprising:

- 3 a) generating an aspect object;
4 b) communicating configuration information from the observer object to the aspect
5 object, the configuration information including a desired type indicator and an desired
6 communication rate indicator;
7 c) attaching the aspect object to the subject object; and
8 d) in response to a state change indication from the subject:
9 1) sending an update to the aspect;
10 2) interrogating the update to generate an update type indicator;
11 3) modifying the update based on a comparison between the update type indicator
12 and the desired type indicator to produce a modified update;
13 4) sending the modified update to an accumulator;
14 5) using the desired communication rate indicator to determine whether the object
15 is ready to receive the modified update; and
16 6) communicating the modified update to the observer.